

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 20, and amend the claims as follows:

1-34 (Cancelled).

Please add the following new claims:

35. (New) A disposable ampoule opener in combination with an ampoule, the ampoule including an elongated member that comprises a body, a neck portion and a tip portion, the disposable ampoule opener comprising a plastic elongated housing member that includes a first elongated housing member that includes a first elongated housing section and a second elongated housing section hingedly connected to the first elongated housing section, the first and second elongated housing sections having at least one latch capable of securing the first elongated housing section to the second elongated housing section to define an inner cavity shaped to receive a portion of the ampoule, an open housing end, a closed housing end, sidewalls disposed between the open housing end and the closed housing end, the sidewalls having an outer housing surface and an inner housing surface forming at least a portion of the inner cavity, wherein at least one inner rib circumscribes at least a portion of the inner housing surface proximate the open housing end; and a lid secured to the housing proximate the open housing end, the lid being capable of a closed position and an open position.

36. (New) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 35, wherein the lid includes an aperture and at least one of the housing member sections includes a protrusion sized to fit into the aperture.

37. (New) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 35, wherein at least one of the elongated housing sections is transparent.

38. (New) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 35, wherein each of the elongated housing sections is opaque and the lid is transparent.
39. (New) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 35, wherein at least one of the elongated housing sections includes one or more outer ribs.
40. (New) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 35, wherein the first and second elongated housing sections include two latches capable of securing the first elongated housing section to the second elongated housing section to define the inner cavity.
41. (New) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 35, the lid includes a substantially planar outer surface with a raised portion having a predetermined shape.
42. (New) The disposable ampoule opener of claim 35, having at least one broken end of a plastic strip for connecting the ampoule opener to another disposable ampoule opener that forms a series of housing sections positioned parallel to one another.
43. (New) A disposable ampoule opener in combination with an ampoule, the ampoule including an elongated member that comprises a body, a neck portion and a tip portion, the disposable ampoule opener comprising a plastic elongated housing member that includes a first elongated housing member that includes a first elongated housing section and a second elongated housing section hingedly connected to the first elongated housing section, the first and second elongated housing sections having at least one latch capable of securing the first elongated housing section to the second elongated housing section to define an inner cavity shaped to receive a portion of the ampoule, an open housing end, a closed housing end, sidewalls disposed between the open housing end and the closed housing end, the sidewalls having an outer housing surface and an inner housing surface forming at least a portion of the inner cavity; and a lid secured to the housing proximate the open housing end, the lid being capable of a

closed position and an open position, the elongated member additionally including a latch to mechanically secure the lid in the closed position.

44. (New) A disposable ampoule opener in combination with an ampoule, the ampoule including an elongated member that comprises a body, a neck portion and a tip portion, the ampoule opener comprising a plastic elongated housing member that:

(a) includes a first elongated housing section and a second elongated housing section; (b) is capable of being in an open position or a closed position; (c) is capable of defining an inner cavity shaped to receive at least the tip portion of the ampoule when in the closed position; (d) has an open housing end and a closed housing end when in the closed position; (e) has sidewalls disposed between the open housing end and the closed housing end, the sidewalls having an outer housing surface and an inner housing surface that forms at least a portion of the inner cavity; (f) has at least one inner rib or rib section that fully or partially circumscribes at least a portion of the inner housing surface proximate the open housing end, to clamp the ampoule at the neck portion; (g) includes a lid secured to at least one of the first or second elongated housing sections proximate the housing end, the lid being capable of being in a closed or an open position.

45. (New) The disposable ampoule opener of Claim 44, wherein one of the first or second elongated housing sections proximate the housing end has the lid secured thereto; the lid is hingedly secured; and the other of the first or second elongated housing sections proximate the housing end has a latch capable of securing the lid in a closed position.